



Senate

General Assembly

January Session, 2013

File No. 718

Senate Bill No. 1163

Senate, May 6, 2013

The Committee on Judiciary reported through SEN. COLEMAN of the 2nd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PREVENTION OF URBAN YOUTH DELINQUENCY AND VIOLENCE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) The Court Support Services
2 Division within the Judicial Branch shall collaborate, within available
3 resources, with one or more private providers in the city of Hartford
4 that provide community-based services for children and families, in
5 order to (1) inventory programs and services within the city of
6 Hartford designed to promote positive youth development and reduce
7 the number of youth who come into contact with the juvenile justice
8 system, and (2) design a process for identifying at-risk youth for
9 referral to such programs. Such inventory shall indicate the types of
10 services provided in such programs, including, but not limited to,
11 screening and assessment, crisis intervention, family mediation,
12 educational evaluations and advocacy, mental health treatment and
13 services, including gender specific trauma treatment and services,
14 resiliency skills building, access to positive social activities, short-term

15 respite care and access to services available to children in the juvenile
16 justice system. Such private provider may be a community-based
17 service center that provides services for children and families pursuant
18 to section 46b-149e of the general statutes. Not later than February 1,
19 2014, the Chief Court Administrator shall submit a report, in
20 accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint
21 standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
22 matters relating to the judiciary, specifying the programs inventoried
23 and the process designed under this section.

24 Sec. 2. (*Effective July 1, 2013*) (a) For the purposes described in
25 subsection (b) of this section, the State Bond Commission shall have
26 the power from time to time to authorize the issuance of bonds of the
27 state in one or more series and in principal amounts not exceeding in
28 the aggregate one million five hundred thousand dollars.

29 (b) The proceeds of the sale of said bonds, to the extent of the
30 amount stated in subsection (a) of this section and to the extent
31 hereinafter stated, shall be used by the Department of Economic and
32 Community Development for the following purposes:

33 (1) Grants-in-aid to the Metropolitan Economic Development
34 Commission for construction, improvements, repairs, renovations and
35 land acquisition for the purpose of creating elderly housing, not
36 exceeding five hundred thousand dollars;

37 (2) Grants-in-aid to the John E. Rogers African American Cultural
38 Center for construction, improvements, repairs, renovations and land
39 acquisition for the purpose of converting the former Northwest-Jones
40 School to a cultural center, not exceeding five hundred thousand
41 dollars; and

42 (3) Grants-in-aid to Catholic Charities of Hartford for construction,
43 improvements, repairs and renovations for the purpose of creating
44 affordable housing with supportive services, not exceeding five
45 hundred thousand dollars.

46 (c) All provisions of section 3-20 of the general statutes, or the
47 exercise of any right or power granted thereby, which are not
48 inconsistent with the provisions of this section are hereby adopted and
49 shall apply to all bonds authorized by the State Bond Commission
50 pursuant to this section, and temporary notes in anticipation of the
51 money to be derived from the sale of any such bonds so authorized
52 may be issued in accordance with said section 3-20 and from time to
53 time renewed. Such bonds shall mature at such time or times not
54 exceeding twenty years from their respective dates as may be provided
55 in or pursuant to the resolution or resolutions of the State Bond
56 Commission authorizing such bonds. None of said bonds shall be
57 authorized except upon a finding by the State Bond Commission that
58 there has been filed with it a request for such authorization which is
59 signed by or on behalf of the Secretary of the Office of Policy and
60 Management and states such terms and conditions as said commission,
61 in its discretion, may require. Said bonds issued pursuant to this
62 section shall be general obligations of the state and the full faith and
63 credit of the state of Connecticut are pledged for the payment of the
64 principal of and interest on said bonds as the same become due, and
65 accordingly and as part of the contract of the state with the holders of
66 said bonds, appropriation of all amounts necessary for punctual
67 payment of such principal and interest is hereby made, and the State
68 Treasurer shall pay such principal and interest as the same become
69 due.

70 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2014*) (a) The Commissioner of
71 Economic and Community Development shall, within available
72 appropriations, establish a Connecticut Young Adult Conservation
73 Corps program, similar to the former federal Young Adult
74 Conservation Corps program, 29 USC 991 et seq., for the purpose of
75 employing youth and young adults at facilities described in subsection
76 (b) of section 2 of this act that are operational and that have received
77 proceeds from bonds pursuant to section 2 of this act. Under the
78 program, the head of the organization that operates such facility shall
79 set aside at least ten per cent of all employment positions at such
80 facility for employable youth and young adults. Such set-aside shall

81 commence in the fiscal year after the fiscal year when such proceeds
 82 are first received by the organization pursuant to section 2 of this act,
 83 and shall continue each fiscal year thereafter for a total of five fiscal
 84 years, except that the commissioner may grant an extension of time for
 85 the organization to comply with the requirements of this section, for
 86 good cause shown.

87 (b) The Commissioner of Economic and Community Development
 88 may conduct an audit of the financial, corporate and business records
 89 of such organization and conduct an investigation of such organization
 90 for the purpose of determining compliance with the requirements of
 91 this section.

92 (c) The commissioner, through the Attorney General, may bring an
 93 action on behalf of the state against any organization that fails to set
 94 aside employment positions in accordance with this section to seek
 95 compliance with this section or recovery of the reasonable amount of
 96 wages that would have been paid to employable youths and young
 97 adults by the organization had the organization complied with the
 98 requirements of this section.

99 (d) Not later than December first after the fiscal year in which
 100 proceeds are first received by an organization pursuant to section 2 of
 101 this act, and each December first thereafter for the next four fiscal
 102 years, the Commissioner of Economic and Community Development
 103 shall submit a report to the General Assembly, in accordance with
 104 section 11-4a of the general statutes, that includes an assessment and
 105 evaluation of the program established under this section.

106 (e) For the purposes of this section, "youth" has the meaning
 107 provided in section 46b-120 of the general statutes, and "young adult"
 108 means an individual eighteen to twenty-five years of age, inclusive.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>January 1, 2014</i>	New section

JUD *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 14 \$	FY 15 \$
Treasurer, Debt Serv.	GF - Cost	See Below	See Below
Judicial Dept.	GF - Cost	Up to 50,000	None
Department of Economic & Community Development	GF - Cost	Up to 30,000	Up to 60,000

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

Section 1 of the bill requires the Court Support Services Division (CSSD) of the Judicial Department to develop an inventory of programs and services within Hartford that promote positive youth development, design a process for identifying at-risk youth for referral to such programs and create a report that is to be submitted to the General Assembly no later than February 1, 2014. The bill specifies that CSSD implement these provisions of the bill within available appropriations. However, if the bill were to be implemented, a one-time cost of up to \$50,000 for consulting and program costs in FY 14 to the Judicial Department would result. These costs are associated with workload demands placed on CSSD in order to comply with the provisions of the bill.

Section 2 authorizes \$1.5 million in General Obligation (GO) bonds to the Department of Economic and Community Development for various purposes. The total General Fund debt service cost for principal and interest payments to bond this amount over 20 years at a 5.0% interest rate is \$2.3 million (comprised of \$0.8 million in interest and \$1.5 million in principal). The first year that the state will

experience debt service costs associated with the bonds depends on when they are allocated through the State Bond Commission and when the funds are expended.

Section 3 of the bill requires the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) to establish a Connecticut Young Adult Conservation Corps program. The bill specifies that DECD shall implement this provision of the bill within available appropriations. However, if the bill were to be implemented, a cost up to \$30,000 in FY 14 and up to \$60,000 in FY 15 would result. This cost is associated with providing employment services to an estimated 40 youth per year.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 1163*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE PREVENTION OF URBAN YOUTH DELINQUENCY AND VIOLENCE.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the Court Support Services Division (CSSD) of the Judicial Branch, within available resources, to collaborate with private community-based service providers in Hartford to (1) inventory programs designed to promote positive youth development and reduce youth contact with the juvenile justice system and (2) design a process to identify and refer at-risk youth to such programs. The chief court administrator must submit a report on this to the Judiciary Committee by February 1, 2014.

The bill authorizes up to \$1.5 million in general obligation bonds for the Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD) to provide grants-in aid, of up to \$500,000 each, to:

1. the Metropolitan Economic Development Commission to create elderly housing,
2. the John E. Rogers African American Cultural Center to convert the former Northwest-Jones School to a cultural center, and
3. Catholic Charities of Hartford to create affordable housing with supportive services.

The grants can be used for construction, improvements, repairs, renovations, and, except for Catholic Charities of Hartford, land acquisition.

The bill also requires the DECD commissioner, within available appropriations, to establish a Connecticut Young Adult Conservation

Corps program. The program generally requires recipients of the bond proceeds described above to set aside at least 10% of all positions for employable youth and young adults at each facility for five years. The bill authorizes the commissioner to audit and investigate these organizations for compliance and bring action against those that fail to do so. The commissioner must annually report on the program to the legislature.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage for the youth program inventory, July 1, 2013 for the bond authorization, and January 1, 2014 for the Connecticut Young Adult Conservation Corps.

§ 1 — HARTFORD YOUTH PROGRAM

The bill specifies that the inventory of programs must indicate the types of services each program provides, including:

1. screening and assessment;
2. crisis intervention;
3. family mediation;
4. educational evaluations and advocacy;
5. mental health treatment and services, including gender specific trauma treatment and services;
6. resiliency skills building;
7. access to positive social activities;
8. short-term respite care; and
9. access to services for children in the juvenile justice system.

The providers that CSSD must collaborate with to inventory these programs may include family support centers. Family support centers are community-based service centers for children and families against whom a family with service needs complaint has been filed.

§ 3 — CONNECTICUT YOUNG ADULT CONSERVATION CORPS PROGRAM***Program***

The bill requires the DECD commissioner, within available appropriations, to establish a Connecticut Young Adult Conservation Corps program, similar to the former federal Young Adult Conservation Corps program (see BACKGROUND). The program's purpose is to employ youth and young adults (i.e., 16- to 25- year olds, except for emancipated 16 and 17-year-olds) at organizations that receive bond proceeds under the bill.

Under the bill, the head of such organizations must set aside at least 10% of all their employment positions for employable youth and young adults. This must (1) begin in the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which the organization first receives bond proceeds and (2) continue for five total fiscal years. The bill allows the commissioner to grant an extension to comply with these requirements to an organization that shows good cause.

Audits and Investigations

The bill allows the DECD commissioner to (1) audit the financial, corporate, and business records of such organizations and (2) investigate them to determine program compliance.

Action for Noncompliance

Under the bill, the commissioner, through the attorney general, may bring an action on behalf of the state against any organization that fails to set aside employment positions as required by the program. Such action may seek (1) compliance or (2) recovery of the reasonable amount of wages that would have been paid to employable youths and young adults had the organization complied.

Reporting Requirement

The bill requires the DECD commissioner to submit to the General Assembly an annual report that provides an assessment and evaluation of the program. The reporting requirement (1) begins by

December 1 after the fiscal year in which the organizations first receive bond proceeds and (2) continues for the next four years.

BACKGROUND

The Former Federal Young Adult Conservation Corps Program (YACC)

YACC was authorized by Title I of the 1977 Youth Employment and Demonstration Projects Act (P.L. 95-93). The program was established to employ youths who would not otherwise be productively employed, on a year-round basis to perform resource management work on public lands. The Department of Labor administered the program. To be eligible for YACC, a person had to be:

1. unemployed,
2. between ages 16 through 23,
3. a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident, and
4. physically capable of carrying out the work to be accomplished.

The maximum enrollment period was 12 months which had to be served in no more than three periods. A person was prohibited from leaving school to enroll in the YACC and preference was given to youths residing in areas with substantial unemployment. The program continued through the early 1980s.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 32 Nay 5 (04/19/2013)